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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/616,794

07/10/2003

Robert M. R. Neff

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1974

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10/03/2005

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Legal Department, DL429

Intellectual Property Administration

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, PATRICIA T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/616,794

Applicant(s)

NEFF, ROBERT M. R.

Examiner

Patricia T. Nguyen

Art Unit

2817

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413).
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wojewoda et al., U.S. Patent # 5,731,742.

Fig. 8A of Wojewoda et al. discloses a circuit comprising: transistor 150 that connects to the junction of emitters of the differential transistors 150 can be read as a tail current sink; differential transistors 150 that connect to the drain of tail current sink transistor 150 can be read as a differentially connected pair of FETs wherein the differential transistors 150 can be read as main FET and transistor 32 (auxiliary FET) as well as the switching FET connected to the drain of transistor 32 can be read as a switchable tuning element; transistors 150, 2, 4, 6, 8, 16, 32 and circuit 144 can be read as a composite FET.

Although Wojewoda et al. does not mention that the switch is selected from the group consisting of mechanical switches, bridgeable links, and fusible links; it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to substitute one type of switch for the other since such substitution is a well known practice in the art and this is a matter of design choice to have an optimum working condition for the circuit.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Beatson, U.S. Patent # 6,531,916 B2.

Figs. 2, 3, and 4 discloses a circuit comprising: in Fig. 2, tail current sink 224 can be read as a tail current sink; in Fig. 3 differential transistors 328, 330 can be read as a differentially connected pair of FETs wherein the differential transistor 328 can be read as main FET and transistor 326 (auxiliary FET) as well as the switching FET 346 connected to the drain of transistor 326 can be read as a switchable tuning element; transistors 320-328 and 340-346 can be read as a composite FET.

Although Beatson does not mention that the switch is selected from the group consisting of mechanical switches, bridgeable links, and fusible links; it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to substitute one type of switch for the other since such substitution is a well known practice in the art and this is a matter of design choice to have an optimum working condition for the circuit.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-24 are allowed.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

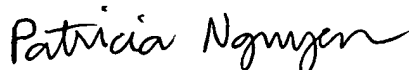
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-1927. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on 703-309-4940. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PTN

September 29, 2005



PATRICIA NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER